

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 SSO-00 OCL-00
SS-15 INR-07 INRE-00 PM-04 /048 W
-----241259Z 101131 /41

Z 241226Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4476
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA FLASH
JCS WASHDC FLASH
OSD WASHDC FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0336

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ACOM, AEMR, MOPS ET
SUBJECT: POTENTIAL COMPROMISE OF CLASSIFIED AND SENSITIVE DOD
COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

1. FROM 1100 TO 1500 HOURS LOCAL, OIC NAVCOMMUNIT AND APO HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO HAVE THE CO OF THE SECURITY UNIT AT TRACT BRAVO TO PERMIT FREE ACCESS IN AND OUT OF THAT TRACT. OIC WAS FINALLY ABLE TO CONTACT SECOND DIVISION LIAISON OFFICER CAPT. KIDANE. KIDANE SAID THAT THE LOCAL EPMG COMMITTEE ON KAGNEW CLOSURE HAS ORDERED THAT USG PERSONNEL MAY LEAVE TRACT BRAVO, BUT NO USG PERSONNEL MAY ENTER. LIKEWISE NO EQUIPMENT IS TO BE REMOVED FROM THAT TRACT.

2. OF MUCH GREATER SIGNIFICANCE, KIDANE INFORMED OIC THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EPMG CLOSURE COMMITTEE ARE TO VISIT TRACT BRAVO THE MORNING OF APRIL 25 TO INSPECT THE FACILITY AND TO INVENTORY ALL EQUIPMENT. KIDANE SAID THAT THE OIC WAS SPECIFICALLY WARNED NOT TO DESTROY ANY EQUIPMENT.

3. APO HAS CONTACTED ABRAHAM OF THE LOCAL MOFA OFFICE WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE EPMG COMMITTEE TO PROTEST THAT CERTAIN CLASSIFIED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT MUST BE DESTROYED AS IS THE REQUIREMENT
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OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO PROTECT THEIR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, POINTING OUT THAT SUCH EQUIPMENT WILL BE OF NO VALUE TO THE EPMG AS IT REQUIRES EXTENSIVE TRAINING TO OPERATE. ABRAHAM PROMISED TO BRING THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR.

4. APO ADVISED OIC OF HIS CONTACT WITH ABRAHAM AND SUGGESTED THAT NAVCOMMUNIT RIG ALL CLASSIFIED EQUIPMENT WITH THERMITE GRENADES

IN CASE ABRAHAM WARNS EPMG MILITARY AND THEY MOVE IMMEDIATELY
TO SIEZE TRACT BRAVO. OIC IS CURRENTLY INFORMING HIS HIGHER
AUTHORITIES TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR IMMEDIATE DESTRUCTION.

5. NO SIMILAR INSPECTION OF THE CONGEN HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY THE
EPMG COMMITTEE AT THIS TIME.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPT AND THE EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY
CONTACT THE EPMG AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS STATING THAT IF WE NOT
PERMITTED TO REMOVE THE CLASSIFIED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT WE
MUST BE PERMITTED TO DESTROY AND THAT THERE MUST BE NO REPERCUSSIONS
AGAINST AMERICANS.
WAUCHOPE

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Message Attributes

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